

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MELBOU 01230 282153Z

72

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-14 NEA-10 EUR-25 AF-10 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06 NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01

ACDA-19 TRSE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10 PA-04

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 INRE-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 DRC-01 /174 W

----- 105404

R 280305Z NOV 73

FM AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1904

INFO AMCONSUL BRISBANE

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL PERTH

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MELBOURNE 1230

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, AS

SUBJECT: REACTION TO TRADE UNION COUNCIL (ACTU)

PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ON MID-EAST.

REF: MELBOURNE 1222

1. ON NATIONAL TELEVISION NOVEMBER 26, ROBERT HAWKE, PRESIDENT ACTU, MADE EMOTIONAL PLEA FOR CHANGE IN AUSTRALIAN POLICY TOWARD ISRAELI-ARAB CONFLICT. CAREFULLY BUT EMPHATICALLY, HAWKE REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO OPEN PERSONAL DISPUTE WITH PRIME MINISTER WHITLAM. AT ONE POINT, HAWKE WAS MOVED TO TEARS IN DESCRIBING PLIGHT OF ISRAELIS.

2. EVERY AUSTRALIAN NEWSPAPER NOVEMBER 27 COMMENTED IN EDITORIALS, COLUMNS AND CARTOONS ON ACTU PRESIDENT'S
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MELBOU 01230 282153Z

STATEMENT. SOME WERE OUTRIGHT IN CONDEMNING

"INTERFERENCE" BY "PRIVATE CITIZEN" IN NATION'S FOREIGN AFFAIRS; BUT MOST WERE AT LEAST SYMPATHETIC, WHILE RELUCTANTLY REJECTING HAWKE'S CALL FOR NEW PRO-ISRAEL POLICY.

3. ON NOVEMBER 27 IN PARLIAMENT, AND AT LATER PRESS CONFERENCE, PRIME MINISTER GAVE LOW KEY REPLIES TO QUESTIONS ABOUT HAWKE PLEA, BY CITING ALP POLICY, NOTING THAT HIS AND LAST TWO LIBERAL GOVERNMENTS HAD MAINTAINED CONCERNED NEUTRALITY ON MID-EAST, BY ENDORSING UNITED NATIONS RESOLUTIONS DIRECTED AT AREA. LIKE HAWKE, WHITLAM ELECTED NOT TO BE DRAWN ON CONFLICT BETWEEN THEM, SAYING HAWKE HAD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS PRIVATE PERSON IN MAKING HIS COMMENTS.

4. IN CONVERSATION WITH LABATT NOVEMBER 28, CLYDE HOLDING, ALP LEADER OF OPPOSITION IN VICTORIA STATE PARLIAMENT, SAID HAWKE UNFORTUNATELY HAD "GONE TOO FAR" IN HIS TV STATEMENTS. WHITLAM CALM STATEMENTS IN REBUTTAL MAKE APPEAR GUIDED ONLY BY EMOTION AND ACTING COUNTER TO LOGIC. HOLDING IS ADVISING HAWKE NOT TO HAVE ISSUE RAISED IN LABOR PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS AS HE FACES CERTAIN DEFEAT. HOLDING HAD HOPED TO START GROUNDSWELL FOR PRO-ISRAEL STAND WITHIN ALP AT STATE ALP EXECUTIVE MEETING DECEMBER 2. HE NOW HOPES QUESTION DOES NOT ARISE AS IT CAN LEAD ONLY TO REAFFIRMATION PRESENT "EVENHANDED" WHITLAM POLICY AND PUBLIC HUMILIATION FOR HAWKE.

5. COMMENT: LABATT FEELS HAWKE OUTMANEUVERED HIMSELF BY EXHIBITING HIS DEEP FEELING ON ISRAEL. AUSTRALIAN KEEN HAWKE-WATCHERS ARE NOT USED TO SIGHT OF FAVORITE AWCAL ACERB INDULGING IN PURE EMOTION. WHILE MOST RESPECT HAWKE FOR SENTIMENT, CONSENSUS IS NOT TROUBLED OVER WHITLAM RESTATEMENT OF MID-EAST POLICY.
FLUKER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: WAR, FOREIGN RELATIONS, JEWS, PRESS COMMENTS, LABOR UNIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, LABOR POLICY LINE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 28 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MELBOU01230
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MELBOURNE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973118/aaaaafrp.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: MELBOURNE 1222
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 17 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <17-Oct-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <13-Dec-2001 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTION TO TRADE UNION COUNCIL (ACTU) PRESIDENT'S STATEMENTS ON MID-EAST.
TAGS: ELAB, AS, XF, IS, ACTU-1, (HAWKE, ROBERT J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005